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PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON
NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION
Geneva, 14-18 March 1994
Agenda item 5

PREPARATIONS FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION

Draft decisions submitted by the informal working group on procedures

DRAFT DECISION I

Provisional rules of procedure for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction

The Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction decides to recommend to the Conference the adoption of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference, as contained in document A/CONF.172/PC/L.1, with the following amendments:

(a) Rule 6 should read as follows:

> The Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States a Bureau consisting of 26 members, consisting of a President and 25 Vice-Presidents, one of whom shall also serve as Rapporteur-General. These officers shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. In addition, the Conference shall have four

Vice-Presidents ex officio. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

(b) Also in rule 6, after the phrase "ex officio", a footnote should be added that would read as follows:

The four ex officio Vice-Presidents will be the Chairmen of the Special High-level Council and of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, the Chairman of the Preparatory Group of the Scientific and Technical Committee for the Conference, and "the father" of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, Mr. Frank Press.

(c) In rule 51, paragraph 1, the following sentence should be added: No quorum shall be necessary for the Chairman of a Technical Committee to declare the meeting open.

(d) In rule 66, the members of the Special High-level Council and of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction should be added to the list of those invited to participate as observers, without the right to vote;

(e) The title of rule 66 should read "Members of the Special High-level Council and of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, and representatives of national committees for the Decade, of scientific associations and of the private sector".

DRAFT DECISION II

Organization of work of the Conference

The Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction decides to recommend to the Conference that:

(a) The plenary of the Conference establish one Main Committee to consider the substantive item or items before the Conference and a number of Technical Committees to allow an expanded review and analysis of specific topics particularly relevant to disaster reduction;

(b) Subject to a decision of the plenary of the Conference, the Main Committee could establish subcommittees or working groups as required;

(c) The Conference elect 25 Vice-Presidents, distributed on the following basis:

African States	7
Asian States	5
Eastern European States	3
Latin American and Caribbean States	5
Western European and other States	5

(d) The Conference shall have the following four Vice-Presidents ex officio: the Chairmen of the Special High-level Council and of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, the Chairman of the Preparatory Group of the Scientific and Technical Committee for the Conference, and "the father" of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, Mr. Frank Press.

DRAFT DECISION III

Provisional agenda for the Conference

The Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction decides to recommend to the Conference the adoption of the provisional agenda of the Conference as contained in the annex to the present decision.

ANNEX

Provisional agenda for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of the President.
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
4. Adoption of the agenda.
5. Election of officers other than the President.
6. Organization of work, including the establishment of committees.
7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
8. Activities for natural disaster reduction.
9. Programmes and policies of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction:
   (a) Regional reports;

(b) Public and private sector interface.

10. Natural disaster reduction:
    (a) Vulnerable communities;
    (b) Hazard resistant structures;
    (c) Effects of disasters on modern societies;
    (d) Interrelationship between technological and natural disasters;
    (e) Economic aspects of disaster reduction for sustainable development;
    (f) Warning systems;
    (g) Drought management.
11. Outcome of the Conference, including a plan of action for natural disaster reduction.
12. Adoption of the report of the Conference.

DRAFT DECISION IV

Provisional programme of work for the Conference

The Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction decides to recommend to the Conference the adoption of the proposed programme of work of the Conference as annexed to the present decision:

ANNEX

Provisional programme of work for the Conference

Sunday, 22 May

p.m.		Pre-Conference consultations
		Plenary

Monday, 23 May

a.m. and p.m.	Item 1	Opening of the Conference
	Item 2	Election of the President
	Item 3	Adoption of the rules of procedure
	Item 4	Adoption of the agenda
	Item 5	Election of officers other than the President
	Item 6	Organization of work, including the establishment of committees

	Item 7	Credentials of representatives to the Conference: (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee
	Item 8	Activities for natural disaster reduction
	Item 7	Credentials of representatives to the Conference: (b) Report of the Credentials Committee
Tuesday, 24 May and Wednesday, 25 May		
p.m.*	Item 8	Activities for natural disaster reduction [conclusion]
Friday, 27 May		
a.m. and p.m.	Item 12	Adoption of the report of the Conference

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* Extended as necessary to accommodate the list of speakers.

Main Committee

Tuesday, 24 May		
a.m.	Item 11	Outcome of the Conference, including a plan of action for natural disaster reduction
	Item 9	Programmes and policies of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction: (b) Public and private sector interface
Wednesday, 25 May		
a.m.	Item 9	Programmes and policies of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction: (a) Regional reports
Thursday, 26 May		
a.m.	Item 9	Programmes and policies of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction [conclusion]: (a) Regional reports (continued)
p.m.	Item 11	Outcome of the Conference, including a plan of action for natural disaster reduction [conclusion]
	Adoption of the report to the Plenary	

Technical Committees

Monday, 23 May		
p.m.	Item 10	Natural disaster reduction: (a) Vulnerable communities
Tuesday, 24 May		
a.m.	Item 10	Natural disaster reduction: [continued]: (b) Hazard resistant structures
p.m.	Item 10	Natural disaster reduction: [continued]: (c) Effects of disasters on modern societies
Wednesday, 25 May		
a.m.	Item 10	Natural disaster reduction: [continued]: (d) Interrelationship between technological and natural disasters

p.m.	Item 10	Natural disaster reduction: [continued]:
		(e) Economic aspects of disaster reduction for sustainable development
Thursday, 26 May		
a.m.	Item 10	Natural disaster reduction: [continued]:
		(f) Warning systems
p.m.	Item 10	(g) Drought management